

Creating a



safer
stronger

uffolk



making our Community safer

CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP
STRATEGY 2005 - 2008

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SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

Statement of Purpose

The Babergh Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership aims to work together to build a safer, stronger and more secure Suffolk.

Purpose of the Strategy

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 places a statutory duty on Babergh District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Constabulary, the Primary Care Trusts, Suffolk Police Authority and the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service to work together and with other agencies in the community, including the Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team, to tackle crime and disorder and the misuse of drugs. This body is known as the Babergh Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership ('the Partnership').

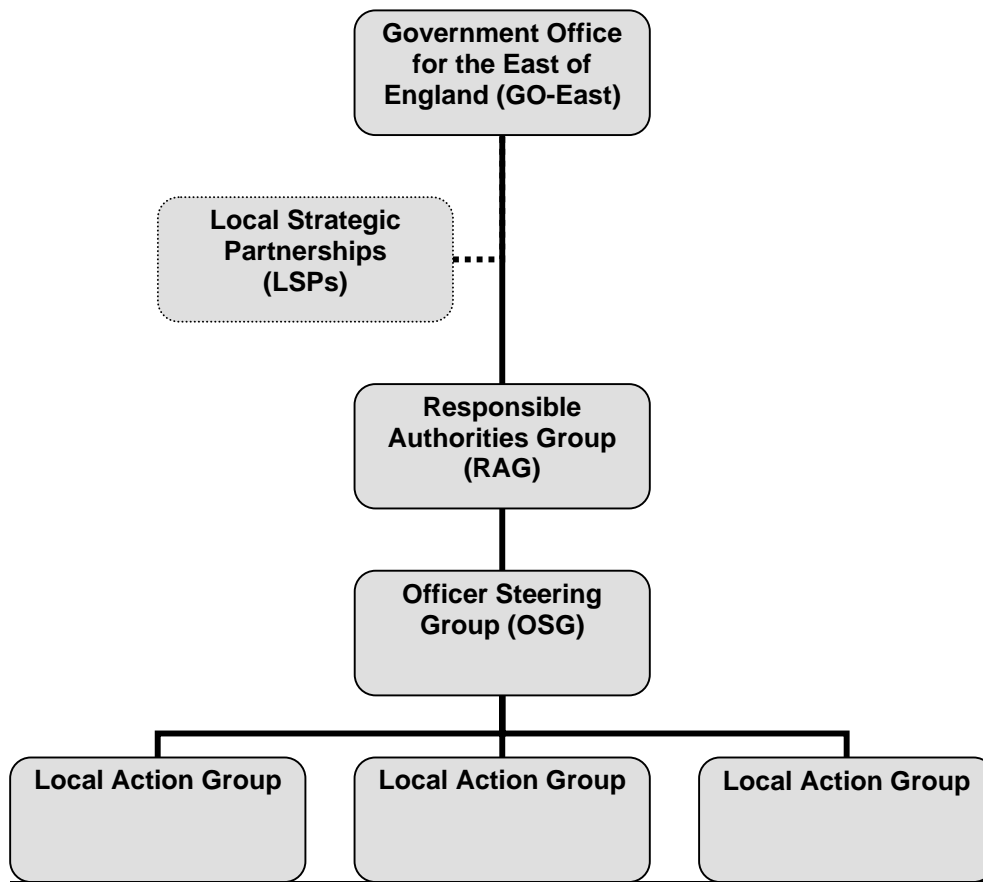
Every three years the Partnership is required to carry out an audit to identify the extent of the problems in the district and develop a strategy to deal with them. An audit of crime, disorder and drug misuse in Babergh was carried out during the summer of 2004 using data collected between April 2001 and March 2004. A summary document of the audit findings was then published in the autumn, inviting the community to comment and express their views and concerns.

The following three-year strategy has been written based on the audit findings and taking into account views expressed during the consultation period. There is a requirement for the strategy to include actions to tackle anti-social behaviour and drug and alcohol misuse. More information can be found about these issues in Section 3 – Audit Findings and Section 4 – Priorities.

The strategy sets out the priorities, aims and objectives against which the Partnership's success will be measured. These performance indicators have been set in partnership with the Government Office for the East of England and have taken into account the requirements of the National Drug Strategy Performance Management Framework.

Historically, whilst work has been carried out by the Partnership to tackle drug and alcohol misuse, the strategic response to this issue has been led by the Suffolk Drug Action Team. However, it is widely recognised that there is an intrinsic link between substance misuse and crime, and for this reason this strategy has integrated the two agendas and has been written to complement the countywide Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2005-08 which has been published by the Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

Partnership Structure



- GO-East**

 - The regional office of central government which brings together into a single operation the varied regional activities of a range of Government departments. The Crime Reduction Team within GO-East monitors and evaluates the work of the Partnership and manages national funding streams.

- Local Strategic Partnerships**

 - Multi-agency partnerships designed to improve communication and co-ordination of plans and strategies across agencies, with the overall aim of improving the quality of life and governance of Babergh. Crime is a key theme of the Local Strategic Partnership, and as such they are kept informed of the work of the Partnership.

- Responsible Authorities Group**

 - The strategic decision-making body, as identified by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Group comprises of members and officers of Babergh District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Constabulary, Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service, the Primary Care Trusts, and the Suffolk Police Authority. The Probation Service and Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Action Team attend as invited members.

- The Officer Steering Group**

 - A multi-agency group attended by representatives of the key partners and agencies prescribed by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

- Local Action Groups** - Thematic or geographically based multi-agency groups with the purpose of implementing the Partnership's action plans and achieving the targets outlined in the Strategy. These groups usually include representatives from statutory and voluntary agencies and members of the local community.

Terms of reference for the various Partnership groups are available from the Head of Leisure and Community Services at the District Council.

Structure of the Strategy

The strategy document is laid out in six broad sections, each containing various subsections.

- Section 1 includes the introduction and the purpose of the strategy.
- Section 2 provides details of local and national plans and priorities which influence the Partnership's approach to community safety, crime, disorder and drug and alcohol misuse issues within the district.
- Section 3 provides a brief outline of the audit findings and the rationale for selecting the Priorities.
- Section 4 outlines the Priorities.
- Section 5 explains the action planning process that will be adopted to ensure effective steps are taken to address the identified issues and
- Section 6 outlines the Monitoring and Evaluation Process that will be adopted by the Partnership.
- Appendix 1 lists the Home Office British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Recorded Crimes

SECTION 2 – A LOCAL AND NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Links to local strategies and plans

This strategy has been written to complement the other strategies in place across the county relating to crime, disorder and drug misuse to ensure a 'joined up' strategic approach to inter-agency working is adopted.

In the spirit of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998¹, the Partnership is constantly striving to make links with key plans and targets produced within partner agencies to ensure that the impact on crime, disorder and substance misuse is considered by all officers when writing and updating plans and policies.

As priorities and targets are constantly being reviewed and amended it would be inappropriate to attempt to provide a definitive list. However the following plans and targets have been identified as having key links to the Crime and Disorder and Drug Misuse Reduction Strategy:

Babergh District Council BVPs/PSA targets
Babergh District Council Housing Strategy
Local Area Agreements
Local Strategic Partnership Community Plan
Local Authority Public Service Agreement Targets

¹ Section 17 states:...'it shall be the duty of each authority....to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area' which means that 'each responsible authority (should) take account of the community safety dimension in all of its work. All policies, strategies, plans and budgets will need to be considered from the standpoint of their potential contribution to the reduction of crime and disorder.'

PCT Local Delivery Plans
Suffolk Constabulary Policing Plan 2005-08
Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2005-08
Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service Community Fire Safety Plan
Suffolk Youth Justice Plan

National Priorities and Strategies

The following section outlines key legislation and strategies which impact on the work of the Partnership, and influences the priorities outlined in this strategy.

Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003: The purpose of the Anti-social Behaviour Act is to provide the tools for practitioners and agencies to effectively tackle anti-social behaviour. It contains measures drawn up from across five Government Departments and builds on existing legislation to clarify, streamline and reinforce the powers that are available to practitioners.

For further information on the Act please visit the Home Office website at:
www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/antisocialbehaviour/legislation/asbact.html

The Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy: This strategy is designed to tackle the most persistent and prolific offenders committing crime within local communities. It has three complementary components:

- Prevent and Deter – to stop people (overwhelmingly young people) engaging in offending behaviours and graduating into prolific offenders;
- Catch and Convict - actively tackling those who are already prolific offenders; and
- Rehabilitate and Resettle – working with identified prolific offenders to stop their offending by offering a range of supportive interventions. Offenders will be offered the opportunity for rehabilitation or face a very swift return to the courts.

The new strategy is CDRP led, with schemes set up to cover every CDRP in the country.

For further information about the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy please visit:
www.crimereduction.gov.uk/ppo.htm

National Policing Plan 2005-08: In November 2004, the Home Secretary launched the National Policing Plan for 2005-08. It contains five key priorities:

- To reduce overall crime – including violent and drug-related crime – in line with the Government's Public Service Agreements (PSAs);
- To provide a citizen-focused police service which responds to the needs of communities and individuals, especially victims and witnesses, and inspires public confidence in the police, particularly among minority ethnic communities.
- To take action with partners to increase sanction detection rates and target prolific and other priority offenders.
- To reduce people's concerns about crime, and anti-social behaviour and disorder.
- To combat serious and organised crime, within and across force boundaries.

For further information about the National Policing Strategy 2005-08 please visit:
www.policereform.gov.uk/docs/national_policing_plan.pdf

The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004: The plans in the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act, will strengthen the rights of victims and witnesses, ensuring they receive the help, support and protection they need. They build on the Government's ongoing reform of the criminal justice system, rebalancing the process in favour of victims and witnesses.

Further information about the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act is available at:
www.crimereduction.gov.uk/legislation37.htm

PSA Targets: Following the Government's 2004 spending review there are three main PSA targets that are of particular significance to the CDRP. These are:

- PSA 1 – Reduce crime by 15% and further in high crime areas, by 2007-08
- PSA 2 – Reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, and building confidence in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) without compromising fairness
- PSA 4 – Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the CJS.

These complement the Police Authority Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) targets, the Local Authority BVPI targets and Local Area Agreements.

Further information about Government PSA targets is available at:
www.treasury.gov.uk/spending_review/spend_sr04/psa/spend_sr04_psaindex.cfm

Further information about Government BVPI targets is available at:
www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_localgov/documents/downloadable/odpm_locgov_029580.pdf

National Drug Strategy: Aiming to reduce the harm that drugs cause to society - communities, individuals and their families - the Drug Strategy has four main elements: -

- Young people - preventing today's young people from becoming tomorrow's problematic drug users;
- Reducing supply - reducing the supply of illegal drugs.
- Communities - reducing drug-related crime and its impact on communities;
- Treatment and harm minimisation - reducing drug use and drug-related offending through treatment and support. Reducing drug-related death through harm minimisation.

For further information about the National Drug Strategy visit: www.drugs.gov.uk/NationalStrategy

National Drug Strategy Performance Management Framework (NDSPMF): The National Drug Strategy has a new Performance Management Resource Pack, which embeds key performance indicators for the 4 themes of the National Drug Strategy into the performance management frameworks of relevant government departments.

This framework will be used to measure the Partnership's performance when tackling drug and alcohol misuse.

Further information about the NDSPMF is available at:
www.drugs.gov.uk/ReportsandPublications/NationalStrategy/1075717576/78168-COI-Drugs.pdf

Every Child Matters: 'The Every Child Matters' Green Paper was published for consultation in September 2003. In March 2004, the Government published 'Every Child Matters: Next Steps.' The new Children Act 2004 provides the legal framework for the programme of reform. Every Child Matters: Change for Children published in December 2004, brings together all the ways the Government are working towards improved outcomes for children, young people and families into a national framework for 150 local-authority-led change programmes. Better outcomes depend on the integration of universal services with targeted and more specialized help, and on bringing services together around the needs of the child and family. Further information about 'Every Child Matters' is available at: www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England: This strategy was introduced by the Government in March 2004 to tackle the growing problem of alcohol abuse in England. It aims to co-ordinate the range of government interventions to prevent, minimize and manage alcohol related harms and to create a single more coherent national strategy. Most importantly, the strategy sets out a new cross-government approach that relies on creating a partnership at both national and local levels between government, the drink industry, local, police and health authorities, and individuals and communities to address alcohol misuse.

Further information about the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy is available at: www.strategy.gov.uk

Local Area Agreements: These are the Government's arrangements to build a more flexible and responsive relationship between central government and a locality on the outcomes that need to be achieved at a local level. Central to these proposals is the formation of 'The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund' (SSCF). This merges several existing ODPM and Home Office funding streams that share a number of the closely related aims of this strategy.

Further information about Local Area Agreements and 'The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund' can be found at: www.odpm.gov.uk

SECTION 3 – AUDIT FINDINGS

The District – an overview

The district, which has an area of 59,469 hectares, is situated to the south and west of Ipswich. The population is 84,669 and is divided into 76 parishes. There are two main urban areas in the district. The largest is Sudbury/Great Cornard; (population of approximately 20,000) situated in the west of the district, and Hadleigh (population of approximately 7,200) which is located in the centre. The remainder of the district is largely rural with many picturesque villages and beauty spots, such as Lavenham, Long Melford, East Bergholt and Flatford and Kersey. The area attracts a large number of tourists, but is also ideally situated for commuters as Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich and Colchester are all within relatively easy reach of residents in the area.

The main roads within the district are the A12 bisecting the east of the district, providing access to London, the A14 Ipswich bypass joining the district to the Midlands, and the A134 joining Sudbury with Bury St Edmunds and Colchester. The remainder of the road network is made up of mainly minor roads.

The main railway line through the district is the Norwich-London line. There are no stations on this line within the district. Sudbury has a local train service which connects with the main line at Marks Tey and subsequently Colchester.

Summary of the Audit Findings

As previously stated, an audit of crime, disorder and drug misuse was carried out during the summer of 2004, analysing data collected from numerous agencies spanning the period April 2001 and March 2004. The following paragraphs summarise the key findings.

A postal survey carried out by Suffolk County Council in March 2004 showed that 52% of Babergh residents felt 'fairly safe' in the area where they lived, and 40% felt 'very safe'.

The annual cost of crime in Babergh for 2003/04 was estimated to be in the region of £11,375,228. These costs include lost or damaged property, time spent, emotional or physical impact, security, insurance premiums, and employer costs. Public sector costs account for about 30% of the overall total cost and include government crime prevention spending, criminal justice system costs, victim services and health services.

Overall, crime rates in Babergh are well below the county average at 56.2 offences per 1000 population compared to 77.8 offences per 1000 population for Suffolk as a whole. Between April 2003 and March 2004, 4692 offences were recorded by Suffolk Constabulary in the Babergh District Council area.

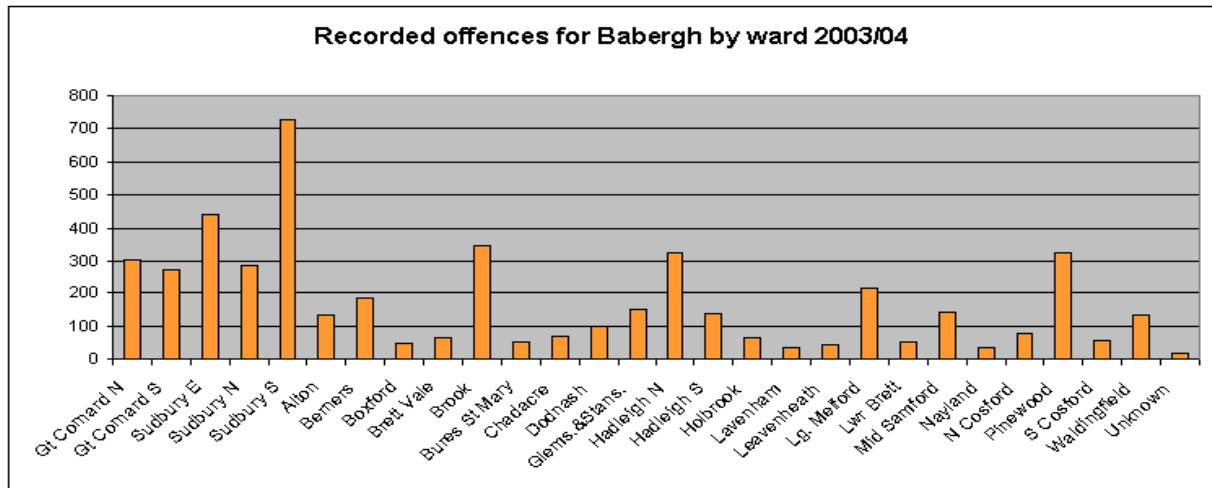
For performance management purposes the Home Office compares areas from across England and Wales that have a similar socio-economic makeup. It also ranks CDRP areas to enable comparison

between all 376 areas across England and Wales, Babergh ranked 343rd for rate and volume of BCS comparator recorded crime² during 2003-04, making them one of the safest areas in the country.

Patterns of offending across Babergh are fairly typical with incidents of violence and disorder occurring mostly in urban areas and opportunistic offences such as vehicle crime and burglary occurring in more rural locations.

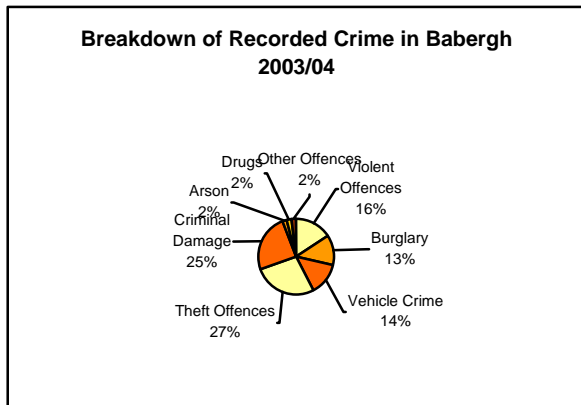
Audit Summary Consultation Document

During the autumn of 2004, efforts were made to consult with the local community about the audit findings. A summary document was produced which highlighted the key issues identified by the audit and views were sought about the importance of these issues to local people and businesses. The following information formed the basis of this document.



Eleven issues were identified which consultees were asked to rank in order of importance:

(Figures appearing in *italics* relate to the actual number of recorded offences.)



BURGLARY (596)

Of Peoples Homes:

Babergh had the lowest number of recorded dwelling burglaries of any district in Suffolk during 2003/04 (161 offences). It also shared the lowest burglary rate with Mid Suffolk (1.9 offences per 1000 population).

Of Sheds, Garages and Other Buildings:

There were 435 'other' burglaries in Babergh last year. These included sheds, garages, outbuildings, and business premises. Over 60% of these offences took place in the following 9 wards: Brook (14.5, 55), Hadleigh North (10.6, 36), Sudbury South (8.2, 32), Gt. Cornard North (6.7, 26), and Gt Cornard South (6.3, 26), Long Melford (6.5, 24), Berners (5.9, 23), Sudbury East (5.3, 21), and Waldingfield (5.0, 20).

ARSON (82)

The rate of arson in Babergh was equal to the Suffolk average of 1.0 offence per 1000 population. Last year there were 82 arson offences reported to the police. 20 of these offences took place in Sudbury, 10 in Gt. Cornard, and 10 in Hadleigh.

² A list of the BCS comparator crimes on which this ranking was calculated are attached at Appendix 1.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE (1178)

The rate of criminal damage in Babergh was generally lower than the Suffolk average (18.3 offences per 1000 population). However, there were some wards where the rate of offences was significantly higher. These wards were Sudbury South (42.5, 166), Hadleigh North (33.5, 114), Sudbury North (28.5, 117), Sudbury East (27.3, 109), Gt. Cornard North (25.4, 99), and Gt. Cornard South (21.5, 88).

DISORDER (1388)

Public disorder events tend to peak in line with periods of activity associated with the night time economy (e.g. pub/nightclub closing times). Unsurprisingly, most events are recorded in urban areas, and more events are recorded during the evening and at weekends.

Within the disorder category the most commonly recorded incident in Babergh was 'Disturbance in a Public Place'. The district average for this type of incident was 6.3 offences per 1000 population. Wards with higher than average rates are Sudbury South (29.0, 113), Hadleigh North (13.2, 45), Sudbury North (12.4, 51), Sudbury East (12.0, 48), Gt. Cornard North (11.3, 44), Pinewood (10.0, 40) and Gt. Cornard South (9.5, 39).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (240)

Of the total number of domestic violence incidents reported to Suffolk Police during 2003/2004, 5% were in Babergh. This equated to 240 incidents.

Although Babergh appears to have a lower than average rate of victimisation it is important to remember that victims living in rural areas face additional barriers to reporting.

Domestic violence is a serious and complex crime whose victims are reluctant to come forward to report what has happened to them or seek support. Since the launch of the countywide 'Break the Pattern: STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE' campaign there has been an increase in the number of incidents reported to the police. Countywide the reporting rate doubled during 2003/2004.

DRUGS (91)

There were 91 drugs offences recorded in Babergh by Suffolk Police during 2003/2004. Of these offences 10 were classed as 'serious drugs offences' and the remaining 81 offences were recorded as 'other drug offences'.

Of these offences 34 were recorded in Sudbury and 13 were recorded in Gt. Cornard.

It is difficult to determine an accurate level of drug misuse in an area, relying heavily on police intelligence and proactive police operations. Whilst, there is no evidence to suggest that there is a major drugs problem in Babergh, it is important to make treatment services available to drug misusers, and to continue to make educational material available to the community.

RACIAL HARASSMENT (27)

There were 27 racist incidents recorded in Babergh during 2003/04. This equated to approximately 5% of all racist incidents countywide.

The 2001 Census showed that the proportion of people from black and minority ethnic groups living in Babergh was below the county rate (2.8%) at 1.3%.

A county breakdown of racist incidents for 2003/04 showed that 32% were harassment, 26% abuse, 22% assault, 10% criminal damage and 10% were other types of offences.

The incident rate in Babergh has risen from 1.2 offences per 100,000 population in 1998/99 to 32.4 offences per 100,000 population in 2003/04.

The Suffolk Racial Harassment Initiative (RHI) encourages the reporting of incidents which may account for the significant increase in incidents over recent years.

VEHICLE CRIME (642)

Theft of Motor Vehicle

Last year in Babergh 157 vehicles were stolen. Overall the rate of vehicle thefts in Babergh was below the Suffolk average of 2.3 offences per 1000 population, but there were some wards which had higher than average rates. These were: Sudbury South (6.4, 25), Sudbury East (4.5, 18), Brook (3.7, 14), Pinewood (3.25, 13) and Gt. Cornard South (2.9, 12).

Theft from Motor Vehicle

During 2003/2004 there were 485 thefts from motor vehicles in Babergh. The average rate for 'thefts from motor vehicle' across Suffolk was 6.5 offences per 1000 population. The wards in Babergh which exceeded this rate were: Brook (16.6, 63), Sudbury East (12.0, 48), Sudbury South (9.7, 38), Gt. Cornard North (8.2, 32), Hadleigh North (8.8, 30), Pinewood (8.75, 35) and Sudbury North (8.0, 33).

VIOLENT CRIME (745)

Levels of violent crime in Babergh are very low.

Violent crime can involve actual violence, the threat of violence or harassment. According to the Home Office Publication, 'Crime in England and Wales 2002/03' half of all violent crime does not result in any injury to the victim.

There were 745 violent offences in Babergh last year. These included 11 robberies and 39 sexual offences.

The violent crime rate in Babergh was well below the Suffolk average (14.0 offences per 1000 population) at 8.9. However, there were two wards with rates higher than the Suffolk average. These were Sudbury South (35.4, 138) and Sudbury East (22.8, 91).

Consultation Feedback

During the autumn 2004, approximately 300 questionnaires were circulated to local community groups, statutory and voluntary agencies to gain their views and perceptions about crime and disorder in Babergh.

A total of 56 questionnaires were returned (18.6%).

When asked about crime and disorder priorities, respondents were most concerned about public disorder/nuisance (non-criminal), dwelling burglary, violent offences and arson.

Racial harassment rated similarly as a high priority and low priority when ranked on a scale of 1-10, with 23 respondents giving it a rating of 1 (highest) and 20 respondents giving it a rating of 10 (lowest).

Fewer respondents were concerned about burglary of other buildings, domestic violence and vehicle crime.

34% of respondents stated that they felt 'very safe' in the area where they lived and 59% said they felt 'fairly safe'.

In areas where there are CCTV cameras 25% stated that they felt 'very safe' and 59% stated that they felt 'fairly safe'.

90% of respondents felt that, as a whole, Babergh was a 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' place.

When asked to list types of behaviour that they considered to be anti-social, key findings were:

Drug/alcohol abuse induced bad behaviour.

Noise nuisance from car radios and neighbours.

Gangs of youths loitering and shouting and swearing in public places.

Damage including vandalism and graffiti.

20% of respondents had been the victim of crime or anti-social behaviour in the past 12 months, with 40% of these incidents being reported to the police.

64% of respondents were male, 36% were female.

There was a wide age range of respondents, with 88% falling into the 36 to 75 years categories.

All respondents were White – British.

Acknowledging the difficulties faced when attempting to communicate with 'hard to reach groups' in rural areas, the CDRP took the opportunity to consult two partnerships, one in the west and the other in the east of the district. The Community Energy Project, whose membership is made up of statutory and voluntary sector agencies from Sudbury and Gt Cornard, was used as a means to promote the work of the CDRP and as a forum for consultation on the audit. The Babergh East LSP was also consulted and proved to be a useful method of engaging with agencies and practitioners at a very local level. Both organizations were afforded the opportunity to comment and return questionnaires.

SECTION 4 – THE PRIORITIES

Strategic Aims:

The Partnership has agreed four aims for the Strategy. These have been developed in line with the ODPM/Home Office publication: The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund Implementation Guidance, and the National Drug Strategy Performance Management Framework, published by the Home Office.

- 1. To reduce British Crime Survey (BCS) comparator recorded crime by 13.5%³ by March 2008.**
- 2. To reduce the number of recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour by 5% by 2008 across Suffolk⁴.**
- 3. To reduce the harm that drugs and alcohol cause to communities⁵.**
- 4. To reduce the number of deliberate fires by 10%, by 2010⁶.**

Priority Development

The Babergh Crime and Disorder and Drug Misuse Reduction Strategy 2005-08 focuses on a number of specific priorities. Broad issues were selected using the evidence provided in the local audit; the public then had the opportunity to comment on these and express their views and concerns. This information was then considered by the Partnership alongside the national priorities emerging from central government.

The Partnership has chosen to tackle the strategic priorities by adopting a layered approach. This will help to ensure that priorities that are shared by some, or all, of the other four Partnerships across the county are approached in a 'joined up' and cost effective manner, avoiding duplication of effort and resources. Shared priorities will be co-ordinated and led by a named agency or initiative at a county level. This will enable the Partnership to focus a greater amount of time and funding on the key local priorities identified by the audit and consultation.

The key local priorities will be a combination of the BCS comparator crimes, against which Strategic Aim 1 will be measured, and issues of local importance which have been identified by the audit and consultation process.

Target priority areas will be selected at the beginning of each financial year and specific Annual Key Performance Indicators (AKPIs) will be set, against which the CDRP's performance will be measured and reported. Local targets will be reviewed annually and will be available via Suffolk County Council Research and Information Team.

Drug and Alcohol Misuse:

The Police Reform Act 2002 extended the statutory duty on 'responsible authorities' to include drug and alcohol within their Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. Many unitary authorities chose to merge their Drug Action Team and CDRP, however, in many two-tier authorities, including Suffolk this

³ The Home Office has allocated British Crime Survey comparator crime categories against which this % target will be measured. These are listed in Appendix 1.

⁴ Local Public Service Agreement 2 (2005-08)

⁵ This is a national aim taken from the National Drug Strategy.

⁶ This target has been adapted from the Fire and Rescue Service PSA Target and is taken from page 64 of the ODPM document '*The Fire and Rescue National Framework*'. It comes into effect from April 2005. This target will outlive this strategy document and progress towards this target will therefore be reported to the end of March 2008.

was not felt to be practical. Instead a plan was put in place to ensure closer working and integration but the DAT and CDRPs remain separate bodies.

The National Drug Strategy Performance Management Framework (NDSPMF) published by the Home Office in December 2003 outlines specific performance management measures and key performance indicators for measuring the success of the Partnership's strategy for tackling drug misuse. This document also placed a statutory duty on the Drug and Alcohol Action Team to publish an overarching countywide Drugs Strategy in April 2005.

Following a multi-agency seminar in September 2004, it was decided that to avoid duplication and to ensure effectiveness of interventions the Partnership would concentrate its efforts on delivering part of the 'community element' of the four key themes from the National Drug Strategy, whilst the Suffolk Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2005-08 would focus on the other three themes (Reducing Supply, Treatment and Harm Reduction and Young People).

Whilst community awareness raising will be the main priority for the Partnership, other local priorities that have been identified by the Substance Misuse Worker will be explored and, if appropriate, developed further during the action planning stage.

SECTION 5 – ACTION PLANNING

The Action Planning Process

Specific objectives for priority areas will be detailed in implementation plans which will be developed during the spring of 2005. Further analysis will be undertaken on the priority areas identified to ensure that resources are allocated to targeted activities which will help the Partnership to achieve their stated aims. This process will be repeated at the beginning of each financial year for the duration of the strategy.

Each action plan will show which of the four strategic aims the plan has been designed to address, the specific objective of the activity including SMART targets, and the baseline position prior to any activity taking place.

The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund funding plans, completed on an annual basis by the Partnership, will be used as a template for the action plans.

SECTION 6 – PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Performance Management

The Partnership recognises the importance of ensuring that effective performance management processes are in place to enable successful monitoring and evaluation of the strategy and associated projects.

Progress made in addressing the four high level strategic aims will, where possible, be measured using iQuanta data published by the Home Office⁷. However, for the categories of arson and some violent crime offences, Suffolk Constabulary data will be used.

⁷ iQuanta is a Home Office police performance analysis tool. It produces a range of charts to illustrate current performance at force, BCU and CDRP level. The analysis gives an impression of how particular units compare with their peers, shows up significant change in performance, and tracks progress towards targets. Measurements are analyzed by placing units into Most Similar Families (MSF). Presently families are in groups of 15. Data is produced one month in arrears and provides data ranging across a three month period.

The Annual Key Performance Indicators will be monitored by the Research and Information Team at Suffolk County Council on behalf of the Partnership. Quarterly reports will be made available to the RAG and GO-East.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation criteria will be built into the action plan at the project development stage, and agreed by the RAG prior to any funding commitment. Where possible, baseline data will be used to enable progress to be measured. In instances where baseline data is not available, it is expected that Lead Officers for the project will detail alternative appropriate performance measures to enable effective monitoring.

The Lead Officer for the project will have responsibility for feeding back progress against project targets to the RAG on a quarterly basis. These reports will also be made available to GO-East as required. Monitoring will continue for an agreed period following cessation of the project and a final evaluation report will be prepared at the end of this period. This will enable the effect of the project's withdrawal to be measured and inform planning for follow-up action to be taken if required.

Government guidance does not require small scale, short-term, or low cost projects to carry out a formal evaluation of their actions. The cost would outweigh the benefits. However, in instances where the project is particularly innovative or likely to produce robust findings which can be shared with a wider audience, a full evaluation may be required. In these instances, the RAG would make a decision about the level of monitoring and feedback required.

Projects requesting funding in excess of £10,000 will be required to produce a detailed monitoring and evaluation plan to ensure that the project is outcome driven.

Reporting Progress against Drug and Alcohol Misuse

There is a formal requirement to feedback progress made against drug and alcohol misuse targets to GO-East in a specific format outlined in the Performance Management Framework of the National Drug Strategy. Therefore, to avoid duplication of effort and resources the Partnership will adopt their performance management system for reporting progress in this priority area.

Annual Reports

Formal reports will be prepared at the end of each financial year to inform GO-East about strategic progress. Additionally, press releases and newsletters will be produced at this time to update the local community about project activity and progress towards achieving the strategic targets.

<p>This strategy was produced by H J Hurworth Limited, a community safety consultancy based in the Eastern Region, in consultation with local CDRP representatives. For further information about H J Hurworth Limited, e-mail: helen.hurworth@tesco.net or telephone 07990 634263.</p>

Appendix 1 – Recorded Crime BCS comparator

BCS category	Code	Individual offences included
Vehicle thefts	37.2 48 45 126	<i>Aggravated vehicle taking</i> <i>Theft and unauthorised taking of motor vehicle</i> <i>Theft from a vehicle</i> <i>Vehicle interference and tampering</i>
Burglary	28 29	<i>Burglary in a dwelling</i> <i>Aggravated burglary in a dwelling</i>
Bicycle theft	44	<i>Theft or unauthorised taking of pedal cycle</i>
Theft from person	39	<i>Theft from the person of another</i>
Vandalism (Criminal damage)	56 58A 58B 58C 58D 58E 58F 58G 58H	<i>Arson</i> <i>Criminal damage to a dwelling</i> <i>Criminal damage to building other than a dwelling</i> <i>Criminal damage to a vehicle</i> <i>Other criminal damage</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated criminal damage to a dwelling</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated criminal damage to a vehicle</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated other criminal damage</i>
Common assault	104 105A 105B	<i>Assault on a constable</i> <i>Common Assault</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated common assault</i>
Wounding	5 8A 8D	<i>Wounding or other act endangering life</i> <i>Other (less serious) wounding</i> <i>Racially/religiously aggravated other wounding</i>
Robbery	34B	<i>Robbery of personal property</i>



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND



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